III. Nor are these the only means which God can employ, **or** which he does employ, for the correction of evil, and the furtherance of that which is good. He has other and incidental, but still most potent, means of farthering the same ends in the " wheel within a wheel/' "by which he can arrest the purposes of mankind, and the effects that would follow,, at the instant of the design or execution. The history of the world is ever displaying instances in which schemes of daring wickedness, fitted to produce incalculable evil, have been stayed in their progress, by providential interpositions. How often have the judgments of God visibly alighted upon the daring opposers of the will of God., while others have escaped ! just as the lightnings strike the bold cliff and the lofty tower which rise proudly to heaven, while the plains and the lowly cottages are unmolested. The death of the Roman Emperor Julian, when he was bent upon the restoration of polytheism, and on the crushing of Christianity, as yet adopted by perhaps a minority of the empire, is one of the many providences which every reflecting mind will discover in the history of the Church of Christ. On the other hand, the good which could not make way by its own strength, has often been helped on by favouring circumstances. The coldest and most secular historians are constrained to discover an overruling power in the events which furthered and hastened the Great Reformation. The simultaneous, or all but simultaneous, discovery of the magnet, of the art of printing, of the telescope, and of a new world, the general revival of letters, and the awakening of a keen spirit of inquiry and enterprise, opened the way for truths which might not have spread so rapidly by their own inherent power. Take any great or beneficent change produced in the state of the world, inquire into the causes and occasions of it, and you find a host of conspiring agencies all tending to a

given point, and evidently under the guidance of a presiding mind.

What all men see on a great scale in the history of the world and of great events, every observant man must have remarked in his own little circle of acquaintanceship, or in his own personal experience. Every one who has watched the ways of providence must have noticed how schemes of good were furthered, and at last were dfowned with success, not so much through their own efficiency or excellence, as by the circumstances which favoured